



CITY SNIPPETS

Information. Well Crafted.

FAIR HOUSING MONTH

April is Fair Housing Month, and the City of Hickory is committed to affirmatively furthering Fair Housing in the community. The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in the sale or rental of housing based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, or handicap. For more information about the Fair Housing Act, visit www.oah.nc.gov/civil-rights-division/housing-discrimination/fair-housing or contact the NC Human Relations Commission at 1-866-324-7474.



The City of Hickory offers housing rehabilitation programs that aim to improve the quality of the local housing stock and make improvements that prevent the displacement of low to moderate income homeowners. The following programs are only available to homeowners that live inside the Hickory city limits:

Housing Rehabilitation Deferred Loan Program

This program provides loans of up to \$25,000 to homeowners whose household income does not exceed 80 percent of the area median income. Funds can be used to bring housing units up to the City's minimum housing code and for accessibility improvements necessary for residents with disabilities. Examples of eligible repairs include heat system

replacement, window replacement, plumbing repairs, repairs of electrical wiring, and roof repairs. No monthly payments are required on the loan, as long as the house is maintained as the principal residence of the borrower. In addition, half of the loan balance is forgiven if the borrower maintains the home as a primary residence for at least five years.

Urgent Repair Program

This program provides forgivable loans to homeowners of up to \$10,000 to households with special needs whose income does not exceed 50 percent of the statewide median income. These funds may be used for urgent repairs or accessibility improvements that are required to avert the displacement of the homeowner.

For more information about the City of Hickory's Housing Rehabilitation Programs and to confirm current program requirements, please contact the Community Development Division at 828-323-7414.

SPRING TIPS

This spring, please keep these helpful tips in mind.

GRASS CLIPPINGS

Please refrain from blowing your grass clippings and other yard waste into roadways. Grass clippings blown and left in the street are a flooding and water quality concern.



Grass clippings in the road ultimately end up in a storm drain where they can build up and cause drainage issues and localized flooding. If these natural materials enter the storm drain, they can travel to local bodies of water, where they can cause high levels of nutrients in creeks, streams, and lakes, resulting in algae blooms. Remember only rain in the drain. Clippings in the street can also be a road hazard.

continued on next page ➡

ADDRESS

76 North Center Street

WEBSITE

HickoryNC.gov

PHONE

828.323.7400

ISSUE

April 2022

HICKORY CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, May 3 & 17 | 7 p.m.
Julian G. Whitener
Municipal Building (City Hall)
HickoryNC.gov



DOWNTOWN HICKORY FARMERS MARKET
Saturdays: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Wednesdays: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
The Sails on the Square
HickoryFarmersMarket.com

SPRING INTO SUMMER
Thursday, May 5
5-7 p.m.
Taft Broome Park

SAILS ORIGINAL MUSIC SERIES
Fridays, May 6, 13, 20, 27
7 p.m.
Union Square
HickoryNC.gov/SailsMusic

DERBY PARTY
Saturday, May 7
4-9 p.m.
SALT Block Lawn
SALTBlockFoundation.org

SPRING BARK FESTIVAL
Saturday, May 14
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Fairbrook Optimist Dog Park

SWINGIN UNDER THE STARS
Sunday, May 29
6:30-9:30 p.m.
Union Square, Downtown
HickoryMusicFactory.com

MEMORIAL DAY
May 30
City Offices, Libraries, and
Recreation Centers CLOSED



Follow us on social media:



Keeping grass clippings on your yard can save money on fertilizer by returning nutrients back into the soil and save money on watering by building organic matter in your soil.

POOL FILL ADJUSTMENTS

Remember to call at least one business day BEFORE you fill your swimming pool from the ground up so you may receive an adjustment on the sewer charge on your water bill. Our staff MUST read your water meter before and after the pool is filled to ensure an accurate volume. Please call Collections at 828-323-7424 Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.



LAWN SPRINKLER METERS

The City of Hickory must be contacted to activate irrigation meters to avoid the potential for tampering charges being added for meters that are found with consumption that were turned on by an unauthorized person. To activate a lawn sprinkler meter, call Collections at 828-323-7424 Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Also, remember to call Collections at the end of the season to inactivate the service and discontinue monthly base charges.



HICKORY DOWNTOWN SOCIAL DISTRICT

The City of Hickory approved designating a social district to allow citizens to enjoy alcoholic beverages in its newly revitalized downtown area.

This new district, branded the Hickory Downtown

Social District, went into effect on March 15 and enables patrons of downtown ABC permitted establishments to drink an alcoholic beverage on sidewalks, Union Square, and other public areas within the social district between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. Several restrictions are in place to ensure the downtown area remains a safe, family-friendly destination. For a list of these restrictions, more information about the Hickory Downtown Social District, and a detailed map of the coverage area, visit <https://www.hickorync.gov/downtown-social-district> or scan the QR code above with your phone.



SAILS ORIGINAL MUSIC SERIES

The City of Hickory's Sails Original Music Series returns to Downtown Hickory this spring and fall, bringing free concerts of live original music under The Sails on the Square. Performances will begin at 7 p.m. every Friday evening in May, June (except June 10 & 24), and September. Bring a blanket or lawn chair, pack a picnic or grab food from downtown establishments, purchase beer and

wine from local vendors within the new Hickory Downtown Social District, and enjoy a diverse lineup of bands from regional to internationally recognized musicians. Special thanks to this year's sponsors: David E. Looper & Company, Atriax, Bob Sinclair Music, Larry's Music & Sound, Pfahlert Creative Labs, Olde Hickory Brewery, and Crowne Plaza.

